

wherein the rescue device is sufficiently flexible and includes first and second ends, the first end of the rescue device being disposable proximate the second end of the rescue device to at least partially encircle at least a portion of the body of a person in water to support the person in the water.

16. (Amended) The rescue device according to claim 1,

wherein ~~the rescue device has first and second ends~~, the rescue device further comprising a tow line having first and second ends and a length, the first end of the tow line being coupled to the first end of the rescue device, the tow line having a plurality of rings arranged along its length, and a hook coupled to the second end of the rescue ^{device} ~~tube~~ for securement to at least one of the plurality of rings.

21. (Twice Amended) A flotation device comprising:

a flexible floatation material;
a flexible mesh disposed entirely about said floatation material, said flexible mesh being in contact with an outer surface of said floatation material; and
a bonding material covering the flexible mesh and the floatation material,

wherein the floatation device is one of a life saving rescue tube typically employed by a life guard, a life vest, a life saving can, a life preserver, a noodle and a floating ring.

21 22. (Amended) A rescue device comprising:

a floatation material;

a flexible mesh disposed about said floatation material, said flexible mesh being in contact with an outer surface of said floatation material;

a bonding material covering the flexible mesh and the floatation material; and

a tow line having first and second ends and a length,

the first end of the tow line being coupled to one end of the rescue device, and the flexible mesh being directly coupled to the tow line. *of a strap which exits an end of the rescue device, and the flexible mesh being directly coupled to the tow line.*

23. (Amended) A rescue device comprising:

a floatation material;

a flexible mesh disposed about said floatation material, said flexible mesh being in contact with an outer surface of said floatation material;

a bonding material covering the flexible mesh and the floatation material;

a tow line having first and second ends and a length, the first end of the tow line being coupled to one end of the rescue device; and

10 a securement device to retain the tow line in a compressed state,

15 wherein the rescue device is sufficiently flexible and includes first and second ends, the first end of the rescue device being disposable proximate the second end of the rescue device to at least partially encircle at least a portion of the body of a person in water to support the person in the water.
